

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 34 (cancelled).

1 35. (currently amended) A wetness indicator to be
2 exposed to an environment to monitor the presence of a
3 fluid in the environment, said wetness indicator
4 comprising a multiple layer composite of a first ink
5 layer ~~and applied to~~ a second ink layer, ~~at least one of~~
6 ~~said layers comprising~~ said first ink layer being
7 disposed between said environment and said second ink
8 layer to control fluid contact with at least a portion of
9 the second ink layer, a polymer matrix said second ink
10 layer containing a pH indicating agent that provides a
11 visual indication in response to contact with said fluid
12 and at least one of said layers containing a fluid
13 regulating additive to regulate fluid contact with said
14 pH indicating agent in said second ink layer ~~at least one~~
15 ~~of said layers~~, said fluid regulating additive being
16 selected from the group consisting of silica gel,
17 superabsorbent polymers, cellulosic resins, anhydride
18 resins, polyolefin blend resins, zeolites, calcium oxide,

19 clays and calcium sulfate, ~~said composite having a~~
20 ~~thickness and at least one surface to be exposed to an~~
21 ~~environment containing a fluid to be monitored by said pH~~
22 ~~indicating agent, and said pH indicating agent and said~~
23 ~~fluid regulating additive being dispersed through the~~
24 ~~thickness of said matrix whereby fluid contacting the~~
25 ~~surface is transmitted by said fluid regulating additive~~
26 ~~into contact with said pH indicating agent within the~~
27 ~~thickness of said matrix.~~

Claims 36 - 42 (cancelled).

1 43. (previously presented) An indicator as in claim
2 35, wherein said composite is part of an absorbent
3 article worn on a user's body.

Claims 44 and 45 (cancelled).

1 46. (currently amended) An indicator as in claim
2 35, wherein said ~~at least one of said layers~~ fluid
3 regulating additive is a zeolite, said fluid comprises
4 molecules of a first size and said pH indicating agent
5 comprises molecules of a second size larger than said
6 first size, said zeolite having a pore size that allows
7 the flow of fluid therethrough but obstructs the flow of
8 said pH indicating agent contacted by said fluid to

9 thereby reduce ~~reduces~~ bleed of said pH indicating agent
10 from said second ink layer ~~into said fluid~~.

1 47. (currently amended) A wetness indicating ink
2 for forming a cured or dried ink layer to be disposed in
3 an environment to monitor the presence of a fluid in the
4 environment, said wetness indicating ink comprising a
5 polymer, a pH indicating agent that provides a visual
6 indication in response to contact with said fluid and a
7 zeolite fluid regulating additive in an amount effective
8 to provide ~~a~~ said cured or dried ink layer ~~of said ink~~
9 having said additive dispersed therein with sufficient
10 moisture transmission to cause a fluid contacting said
11 layer to be transmitted into contact with said pH
12 indicating agent within said layer, said fluid comprising
13 molecules of a first size and said pH indicating agent
14 comprising molecules of a second size larger than said
15 first size, said zeolite having a pore size that allows
16 the flow of fluid into said ink layer but obstructs the
17 flow of said pH indicating agent contacted by said fluid
18 out of said ink layer.

Claims 48, 49 and 50 (cancelled).

1 51. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said first ink layer is impermeable to said fluid
3 and thereby prevents fluid contact with said portion of
4 said second ink layer.

1 52. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said first ink layer is microporous and thereby
3 lessens and/or delays fluid contact with said portion of
4 said second ink layer.

1 53. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein both said first and second ink layers each
3 contain fluid regulating additive.

1 54. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said second ink layer is a substantially
3 continuous film of polymer having said pH indicating
4 agent and fluid regulating additive dispersed therein.

1 55. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said first and second ink layers each have a
3 weight of from about .2 gsm to about 105 gsm and a
4 thickness of from about a fraction of a mil to about 6
5 mils.

1 56. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said second ink layer contains from about 0.1% to
3 about 25% of said pH indicating agent based on the weight
4 of the second ink layer.

1 57. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said fluid regulating additive is a zeolite
3 having a pore opening size that restricts the passage of
4 a molecule larger than a water molecule.

1 58. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 35,
2 wherein said first and second ink layers each comprise a
3 substantially continuous film of polymer having a weight
4 of from about 2 gsm to about 105 gsm and a thickness of
5 from about a fraction of a mil to about 6 mils, said
6 second ink layer contains from about 0.1% to about 25% of
7 said pH indicating agent based on the weight of said
8 polymer forming said second ink layer, and said fluid
9 regulating additive is dispersed in at least one of said
10 ink layers.

1 59. (new) An indicator as set forth in claim 58,
2 wherein said fluid regulating additive is a zeolite
3 having a pore opening size that permits the flow of fluid
4 into said second ink layer to contact said pH indicating
5 agent and restricts the flow of said pH indicating agent

6 contacted with said fluid from said second ink layer into
7 said environment.